

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8715

C O N F I D E N T I A L REYKJAVIK 1208

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, OVIP, IC
SUBJECT: VISIT OF ICELAND FOREIGN MINISTER BENEDIKT GRONDAL

DEPUTY PERMANENT UNDERSECRETARY HELGASON OF ICELANDIC FOREIGN MINISTRY HAS ASKED IF IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR NEW FOREIGN MINISTER BENEDIKT GRONDAL TO MEET WITH SECRETARY VANCE IN NEW YORK SOME TIME DURING GRONDAL'S STAY THERE DURING PERIOD SEPTEMBER 19-OCTOBER 2 IN CONNECTION WITH UPCOMING UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY. HELGASON NOTED THAT GRONDAL WAS EXTREMELY ANXIOUS TO MEET WITH SECRETARY TO DISCUSS MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST. CHARGE LIMITED HIS COMMENTS TO SIMPLY INFORMING HELGASON THAT HE WOULD RELAY REQUEST TO WASHINGTON AND WOULD ADVISE HELGASON AS SOON AS POSSIBLE OF RESPONSE. COMMENT: GIVEN GRONDAL'S LONG-STANDING POSITION FAVORING US MILITARY PRESENCE IN ICELAND AND CONTINUED ICELANDIC PARTICIPATION IN NATO, HIS ROLE AS CHAIRMAN OF PRO-NATO SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY, AND HIS EFFORTS TO ASSURE CONTINUATION OF PRESENT PRO-NATO DEFENSE POLICY UNDER NEW GOVERNMENT, EMBASSY RECOMMENDS STRONGLY IN FAVOR OF MEETING IF SECRETARY'S SCHEDULE PERMITS. PLEASE ADVISE.
CHRISTENSEN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Subject: VISIT OF ICELAND FOREIGN MINISTER BENEDIKT GRONDAL DEPUTY PERMANENT UNDERSECRETARY HELGASON OF ICELANDIC FOREIGN MINISTRY HAS ASKED IF IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE
TAGS: PGOV, OVIP, IC, US, (VANCE, CYRUS R), (GRONDAL, BENEDIKI)
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